

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 DLOS-04 /018 W  
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P R 292026Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7394

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HALIFAX UNN

AMCONSUL ST JOHNS UNN

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3273

EO 11652 NA

TAGS EFIS ICNAF CA UR

SUBJ FISHERIES: CANADA/USSR AGREED RECORD  
OF UNDERSTANDING, AUGUST 27

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF AUGUST 27 AGREED RECORD OF  
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CANADA AND THE USSR ON FISHERIES  
(TEXT RELEASED BY EXTAFF ON AUGUST 28):

BEGIN TEXT: CANADIAN AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS MET AT  
OTTAWA FROM AUGUST 25 TO 27, 1975 TO DISCUSS FISHERIES  
MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

BOTH SIDES RECOGNIZED THAT IT WAS IMPERATIVE TO  
ENSURE STRICT ADHERENCE TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF  
MEASURES AGREED WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION  
FOR THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES (ICNAF),  
PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE URGENT NEED TO MAINTAIN  
AND RESTORE THE STOCKS. THE CANADIAN AND SOVIET  
DELEGATIONS AGREED TO ESTABLISH NEW METHODS OF  
COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE THIS RESULT.

FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF PAST DIFFERENCES IN THIS  
FIELD, THE TWO SIDES UNDERTOOK TO DEVELOP PROCEDURES  
THAT WOULD LEAD TO A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF CATCH  
INFORMATION ON WHICH IMPLEMENTATION OF QUOTAS IS BASED,  
AND THAT WOULD ENSURE THAT FUTURE DIFFERENCES, SHOULD  
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ANY ARISE, COULD BE SATISFACTORILY AND PROMPTLY RESOLVED.

TO THIS END TECHNICAL EXPERTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL MEET FROM TIME TO TIME FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AND COORDINATION OF INFORMATION, WITH THE NEXT SUCH MEETING TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER. IT WAS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "JOINT FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION" TO CARRY OUT, INTER ALIA, THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

A) TO REVIEW PROBLEMS REFERRED TO IT BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREED MEASURES, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF SUCH PROBLEMS;  
B) TO FACILITATE THE COORDINATION OF STATISTICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION;  
C) TO IMPROVE BILATERAL COOPERATION UNDER THE ICNAF SCHEME OF JOINT INTERNATIONAL ENFORCEMENT;  
D) TO PROVIDE FOR AN IMPROVED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO AREAS OF CONCENTRATION OF FISHING OPERATIONS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AND PROMOTE OTHER COOPERATIVE MEASURES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING DAMAGE TO FISHING GEAR AND OF FACILITATING THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY CLAIMS ARISING FROM SUCH DAMAGE;  
E) OTHER FUNCTIONS THAT MAY BE ASSIGNED TO IT BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED JOINT COMMISSION, THE TWO SIDES FURTHER AGREED TO ENSURE THE PROMPT DISCONTINUANCE OF A FISHERY WHEN THE NATIONAL QUOTA ALLOCATION FOR THE STOCK IN QUESTION HAS BEEN TAKEN. UPON THE EFFECTIVE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH PROVISIONS AND THE OTHER PROCEDURES REFERRED TO ABOVE, SOVIET FISHING VESSELS WILL BE GRANTED RENEWED ACCESS TO CANADA'S ATLANTIC PORTS.

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ROLE OF THE PROPOSED COMMISSION WOULD HAVE TO BE REEXAMINED IN THE LIGHT OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN FISHERIES RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

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BOTH SIDES ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THEIR FUTURE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO MEET AT AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY IN ORDER TO CONSIDER THE ELABORATION OF A BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES COOPERATION THAT WOULD ESTABLISH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS GOVERNING CONTINUED FISHING BY THE SOVIET FLEET IN WATERS OFF

CANADA'S COASTS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ANTICIPATED  
LEGAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CHANGES IN THE REGIME OF  
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SUCH WATERS AND TRADITIONAL  
SOVIET FISHING.

THE TWO SIDES REVIEWED THE CANADIAN PROPOSALS  
FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FISH STOCKS  
OFF CANADA'S ATLANTIC COAST FIRST ADVANCED AT THE  
JUNE 1975 MEETING OF ICNAF AND SCHEDULED FOR FURTHER  
DISCUSSION AT THE SPECIAL ICNAF MEETING TO BE HELD  
AT MONTREAL IN SEPTEMBER. THE CANADIAN SIDE STRESSED  
THE IMPORTANCE CANADA ATTACHES TO THESE PROPOSALS  
AND THEIR POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF ICNAF.

THE SOVIET DELEGATION WAS CHAIRED BY MR. ALEKSEY  
A. VOLKOV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF FISHERIES; THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE CANADIAN DELEGATION WAS MR. L.H. LEGAULT,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AND MARINE  
DIRECTORATE, DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT. END TEXT.  
PORTER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHING AGREEMENTS, FISHERIES MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975OTTAWA03273  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750300-0320  
**From:** OTTAWA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975085/aaaaadwg.tel  
**Line Count:** 136  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 DEC 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 DEC 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FISHERIES: CANADA/USSR AGREED RECORD OF UNDERSTANDING, AUGUST 27  
**TAGS:** EFIS, CA, UR, ICNAF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006